



**MARYLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2008**

Frederick Campus

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cynthia Neese-Bailes, Ph.D.; Connie Briscoe-Woodruff; William Bowman; John Ertel, Ph.D.; Sandra Harriman; Robin Kittleman; E. Bernard Palmer; Charles Poyer; Barbara Raimondo, Esq.; David A. Severn, Esq.; Laurie Yaffe; Carol Stevens; Roslyn Hannibal-Booker.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Benjamin Bahan, Ph.D.; Ernest Hairston

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL: Demetria Tobias, Esq.

INTERPRETERS: Brenda Kelly-Frey; Myra Foley

President Raimondo called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. Roll call was taken by passing around the roll call sheet. Introductions were made to a nominated Board Member, Heather Zeolla, and to Superintendent Tucker's new Executive Associate, Abigail Elliott.

President's Report: A meeting was held to discuss the Admissions Policy for the Pilot Program for Deaf Students with Emotional Disturbance.

The President announced that the Board would go into Closed Session in the afternoon to discuss a personnel issue.

Vice President Report: No Report.

Secretary's Report: No Report.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bowman explained that the economic downturn has caused an 18% loss of funds. The checking account remains unchanged. Dr. John Ertel, liason to MSD Foundation, was asked to meet with the treasurer of the Foundation and discuss options for the Board funds in these difficult economic times.

FREDERICK

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*Frederick Campus
Established 1868*

*Columbia Campus
Established 1973*



Maryland School for the Deaf
does not discriminate on the basis
of race, color, sex, age, national
origin, religion, or disability in
matters affecting programs,
activities, or employment
practices.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Tucker explained that the current fiscal year budget remains untouched by the economic situation. We are still watching our expenses as the price of gas has decreased but the cost of food has not decreased yet.

Mr. Tucker noted that the Department of Education has committed to funding the new program for Deaf Students with Emotional Disturbance for the next two years. The program will begin in January. The school is advertising to fill faculty positions for this program. The teacher position has been upgraded to Lead Teacher.

Student enrollment remains steady at 456 students.

Mr. Tucker explained that the oral program has begun and is doing well. A discussion was held with regards to the components of the program on both the Columbia and Frederick Campuses. A report on the spoken English program will be given to the Board in May.

The new elementary school building is almost complete. A Building Name Committee has been established to select a name for the new elementary school building and also the Main Building at Columbia Campus, which. Name suggestions are welcomed from the MSD community, parents and other stakeholders. The recommended name will be presented to the Board for approval in May.

Presentation: Mary Lynn Lally, Assistant Principal of the Frederick Campus Elementary program, and Melinda Padden, Principal of the Frederick Campus, were invited speakers to discuss the progress of the Special Needs Program.

A **MOTION** was made to approve the agenda. **SECONDED - PASSED.** The proposed Emotionally Disturbed Policy was added to the Agenda and the review of the Master Plan was postponed until the February 2009 Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Tucker's goals for the year were also added to the agenda.

A **MOTION** was made to approve the September 2008 Board of Trustees meeting minutes. **SECONDED - PASSED.**

Executive Committee Report: No report.

Education Committee Report: Robin Kittleman reported that the draft of the ED Policy was reviewed in a meeting this morning prior to the Board of Trustees meeting. The intent is good in that it is designed to protect MSD, staff and students. Changes were reviewed and made to revise the policy wording.

Fiscal Matters/Facilities Management Report: John Ertel is the new chair of this committee.

Personnel Committee Report: Chairperson David Severn reported that a personnel issue will be investigated and discussed in a closed session this afternoon.

Student Life Committee Report: Carol Stevens will have to be replaced on this committee, as she has resigned and this is her last Board of Trustees meeting.

Trusteeship Committee Report: Three names have been submitted to the Governor's Office for appointments to the Board of Trustees. The Board currently has 14 members and needs to have 19 members. Advertisements for members will be placed on the MSD website and in the MD Bulletin.

Open Forum: No persons present.

Fiscal Matters/Facilities Management Committee Report: John Ertel has met with the MSD Foundation. The new elementary school is tentatively scheduled to open on February 1, 2009. A dedication ceremony will be held in May. There is a 5K race on April 18. MSD will host the American Society for Deaf Children Convention in 2011.

A **MOTION** was made to go into Closed Session at 1:15 p.m. SECONDED - PASSED.

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A **MOTION** was made at 2:45 p.m. to go into Open Session. **SECONDED – PASSED.**

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New Business: Mr. Tucker's goals were adjusted to reflect input from the consultant who conducted the 360 degree evaluation of the Superintendent.

A plan is being developed for the ribbon cutting of the new elementary school building. Officials will be invited to the grand opening ceremony. The naming ceremony may take place in the Fall to coincide with Homecoming.

A **MOTION** was made to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 p.m.. **SECONDED – PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Poyer
Secretary